## Dover Municipal Landfill Superfund Site Second Consent Decree for RD/RA

Civil Action No. 1:92-cv-406-M

## **APPENDIX A-1**

1991 ROD

(Part 5 of 6)

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alternatives and a very delayed and slow approach to the expenditure of this amount of money.

Now, it's easy, either in an academic or judicial environment, for us to fall into the trap of tearing each other's positions down. And all of us here, everybody here has an obligation to avoid doing that. Our task is to work together to forge an agreement on the most reasonable and fair response to this situation, and the city of Dover has been working very closely with the Agency in this regard and we will continue to do so. it's important, however, for the Agency to understand inat the imposition of an obligation to pay tens of millions of dollars in response to a situation which presents minimal if any risk will be destructive to the civic and industrial community of Dover. Thank you.

DAN COUGHLIN: Mayor Maglaras.

GEORGE MAGLARAS: Good evening, and welcome to our fine City one more time.

The City's actions, to respond along with the PRP's, has been a commendable one. We as a community over many years have been up-front and aggressive in taking a number of responsible and

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appropriate steps to ensure the public's health and safety as it relates to the landfill.

Specifically, I don't want to be redundant, but the restrictive use of ground water in the area, we've installed water lines in the area for our residents. We've instituted proper zoning regulations to make everyone aware of the existence of a landfill. The installation of a trench and the vegetative cover as well, and the pursuit of other institutional controls, and we have fully cooperated with the State and Federal officials as progress has surely been made and we will continue to do . But as mayor of the city of Dover, it is the city council's official position that we stand in opposition to the EPA's Preferred Alternative, and would announce our preference for a limited action alternative which may be modified through future negotiations.

Given the demographics and the socioeconomic conditions of our community, to apply our limited resources to fund a 25 million dollar project of this type, given the minimal threat the landfill imposes, is at best ill-advised and morally fleeting.

I don't want you to misunderstand what
I'm saying, because we stand ready to accept our
responsibility and not bury our heads in the sand;
however, given all that we face as a community and
as a State and as a nation, we should be able to
work together to bring about a common-sense
resolution to this issue, which will surely
enhance and promote our quality of life. Thank
you.

DAN COUGHLIN: David Wright city

DAN COUGHLIN: David Wright, city manager, city of Dover.

DAVID WRIGHT: Thank you.

For the record, my ... me is David B.

Wright. I live at 203 Henrila Avenue, and since
February of last year I have been the town
administrator, city manager of this community.

I want to start off by talking about what this really means. Everett Dirkson, one of my favorite U.S. Senators said: You know, a billion here, a billion there, it adds up to real money.

That's just what we have here. We've got a million here, a million there, and it gets lost. The impact of that is unclear, especially

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if you're far away and don't see how it affects the community and what 25 million means in terms of alternatives to this community. I may want to go work through some of those economics.

The Tolend Road landfill, SC-5, which is Source Control Preferred Alternative of the EPA and the Migration of Management option chosen by the EPA at a total cost of almost 26 million dollars, 25,954,000. If you divide it into the population of the two cities involved, Madbury and Dover, it is \$2,975 per person on a capital expenditure, not including interest, on a capital expenditure. To put that in perspect, ., to equal 26 million dollars, you have to go back twelve years for every single capital expenditure the City has ever made. Twelve years equals 26 million dollars.

The average household in this community pays less than 2 thousand a year, \$1997 in taxes; yet the total cost in capital for this preferred alternative is \$3000 per household in this community.

You can argue that, or say that that 3000 isn't all coming out of the City's share,

it's not to be paid in taxes. But frankly, who's kidding who? This is coming out of this community. And if it's coming out of the employers of this community it's going to come out in the form of wages that they can't take. The lay-offs they're going to make, expansions they're going to put off, or even plants that they have to close. And more importantly, what the City's share is going to be is going on the taxpayers of this community. That's who is going to pay the bill.

I want to talk about some of what the impact is of the solution in terms of EPA's, th. City's share that's now currently proposed. Now, granted, we don't believe necessarily that we're going to pay this total amount. But we don't know because we haven't got the design. And traditionally, the conceptual amount of money that we have on the table in this just-proposed remedy, when we get the design I believe that history shows has been higher. And so this is what hopefully is not a realistic cost but probably low. And so maybe our share is high, but the cost of total construction is way below. Currently the

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share based on the formula that has been publicized that the City would pay the 63 percent, that is \$16,351,000 that the City would pay somehow, into a bond or out of the operating budget. And just to give you some ideas of what that is compared to, what that really is, \$16,275,000 is the whole City budget this year as has been proposed by me, and the city council has told me to cut it. They haven't told me how much yet, but that's clearly what's happening. Which is no where near, or not as much as your proposed alternative and our share.

The school budget is \$16,500,000. Madbury's town budget is only \$532,000. Dover's legal limit, how much we can bond, is only 13 million dollars as opposed to 16. And you can see why this figure is frankly ludicrous for the risk to the public posed by this landfill.

Let's talk about what we're giving up. What things we would give up to pay for this, and how maybe they affect public health.

The City's share, I hope, and this is a big hope, of the present sewer treatment plan as is proposed is a \$1,600,000. For a EPA mandated

23 million dollar facility down the river that's at least our share. So we could do ten of those with the amount of money that you're going to require to close this landfill to protect a minimal risk.

A fire pumper, just on today's current business, about \$198,000. We could buy 82 fire trucks. That's more than we'd ever buy in this century and maybe two centuries. And we're having offers from — we need two and we're having a terrible struggle to get beyond one within the operating budget and within the capital budget. That's 82 pumpers.

We have an iron, manganese problem in our water wells. We have numerous wells in the City, I think in the order of about seven or eight. We have one well with an iron, manganese plant in it so that people can get decent water quality. That cost us \$900,000. This particular expenditure, we could build eighteen of those and cover all our wells and any wells in the future with iron, manganese plants, this double expenditure mandated by the EPA.

We spend \$100,000 a year fixing

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sidewalks up. This is 163 years worth of sidewalk repair to this community. And the City has been -- as a matter of fact was the test case. They've been held liable for anybody that falls down on the sidewalks by the court system. We have to pay if somebody gets hurt, so we have to make those kinds of expenditures.

And to put it in perspective, we need to build a new public works garage. The facility now is a terrible space that directly impacts the Cocheco River, frankly. It has more of an impact on the Cocheco River than probably this particular landfill does. And that cost us 3 million dollars. That's five of those to build this landfill to solve a minimal risk.

We need a new elementary school. We've been struggling year after year for five or six years. And I think there's some people here from the school board who will talk about this. To build an elementary school, that costs about 3 million dollars. There's 4.7 elementary schools that we could pay for out of that amount of money.

We need a new interchange at Reed This is the State -- ours, of course, and Circle.

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the State's share. The sum of money -- and the State's money is involved in this, because they know this is a dangerous circle and people are going to die if we don't do something on this And our share's a million dollars. circle.

This landfill, we could build 16 of those for the amount of money we're going to spend capping the landfill on the preferred alternative selected by the EPA.

For \$200 a foot, a running foot, we can get a first-class water, sewer line, road and drainage project going. We could build 81,000 feet of road, almost 82,000 square feet, or 15 miles of new streets for this money.

Some of our streets are in very poor shape and we need that money. We can spend -- we are currently in active negotiation to build a new industrial park in conjunction with private industry, where we would acquire the land and sell it to people building in this town, not the developers but the builders. The total amount of money we have available for that up to our maximum bond unit at 1 million and 3, \$1,135,000. We could build 14 industrial parks of that size.

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which would pay for this cleanup over and over again, that we could build.

It cost us every time we buy a school bus \$38,000. We could buy 429 school buses. That's more than probably the whole State of New Hampshire, certainly in this area, for this kind of money. And our school bus fleet is aging. And those are school children riding it daily.

I guess that's why the City feels that frankly this amount of money is not only just a . waste of money, it is a moral bankrupt position and I'm saying that it's taking away from more pressing public health needs and needs of the City.

I want to talk a little bit about the financial situation next. In the last several years the city of Dover, not unlike every other city in the State, is experiencing a downturn in the economy. This top line represents tax collections. You can see that they're going. People are not able to pay their taxes now. That's the clear bottom line. Year after year after year, the last three years, that has risen to the level of about 6 million. It has never

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been that level historically. People cannot pay their taxes, so we don't have the wherewithal, and that drives up our costs. We have to borrow more. We don't have the interest on our money. But that's the taxes that we now have.

Our sum balance, which is, well, the way the world looks is called surplus, perhaps, but it's the money left over. It's our reserve. It's how much money we have to cover any contingencies on the basis of the government finance accounting. taking in these accruals is in a negative position. Because of that Moody's has dropped the City's bond rating for an A, for B double A 1, which is the same level as Massachusetts, or one step above, I'm sorry, the State of Massachusetts, which is the lowest in the country. And that's the bond rating we have to show these bonds at. That's the interest rate that's going to be set because of that-bond rating to float this bond to -take care of the EPA's Preferred Alternative.

There's some other anecdotal things that I will share with you. This is nothing I This came out of the Union Leader, the prepared. newspaper we have in this State. It's a Monday

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business thing of this week dated today, and it talks about the level of foreclosures and the level of bankruptcies in this State. How they've reached levels never seen before. I'd like to have that entered.

And I checked with the Stratford County Registry of Deeds today. And we've had 186 foreclosures in Stratford County, 72 in the city of Dover. That's an historical high that has never been reached since we've had records, and this is a very old county. So the ability to pay is not there, and everything we have to do we can't push on when we have to take it out of the budget and it becomes an operating cost. That's just assuming we can bond this, if we can bond this.

Let's go with how it affects the operating costs of the City.

If we were to take and float a 16 million dollar bond our debt service, principal and interest, what we have to pay a bank at 7 percent interest -- hopefully which will stay firm if our bond rating doesn't get any worse, because the direction of our collections or fund balance

hasn't improved any, it's gotten worse -- is 2 million dollars, almost. \$1,962,000.

What is that? That's my fire department. The entire thing is more money than we spend there.

That's more money than we spend in insurance and fringe benefits for all the city employees and to cover all the insurances for the City.

That's more than we spend in trash disposal.

And it's more than what the school department\_spends to operate and provide teachers for the Horne Street School and all the staff and all associated costs, gas, heat, books, everything.

It is three times the amount for the entire parks and recreation budget.

the entire planning and development of this City, including building inspection and all those departments.

The total existing City debt -- we pay this now -- is 3 million dollars a year. It's

almost double that.

The total police department is only 2.5 million. This is the largest department I have in the whole City.

Our property tax values, one dollar equals, is \$501,000. Hopefully. That may go down. It's certainly not going to increase. This may be the first year in decades where the City has not had a growth in their tax evaluation. We may have a negative growth. We may have more abatements than we will have tax increases, new evaluations coming on line. So that's hopefully the best figure we're going to get. This works out to almost \$4, just to pay for the debt. On a rate right now which is just under \$50.

My whole budget increase which the council is sending back to me to make a major change is proposed as \$4.40 to cover every increase that we have after I've bare-boned it. So there's no new programs. We've offered, you know, positions that we could. I still have \$4 tax increases, I have no revenues. Your bonding will double, almost double that amount.

In terms of the total funds for the

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City, I think this is a telling table. This is how much money since 1959 -- now, in 1959, I want to tell you a secret, I was 9 years old, in elementary school. Cheryl wasn't born. I'll tell you that Dan was, sort of. But he was probably about 7.

In 1959 for this year we only spent a little less than 15 million dollars for City purposes in bonds. The schools managed to do a little less than 10 million dollars. We have the water department, the sewer department and all the others. None of them can equal the Tolend Road land [], an EPA mandate, or the waste water treatment plant was an EPA mandate. Now, everybody says you're supposed to get State funding for that, and this is supposed to be our share, not including the -- you know, there's a 23 million dollar treatment plant, 5 million dollars of which is coming from you guys. The rest is coming from the State of New Hampshire. I suppose you haven't followed the budgets up here. Boston you may not get that. They have not funded that.

The House budget was passed last week;

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did not include a dime to repay us for the bonds for this item. So this is going to go on our tax rate, this mandate. We're going to pay all that. unless there's some change, and the State's in worse shape than we are, frankly.

If you add up every single expenditure paid for by bonds -- I think it's about 40 million going back to 1959. And I'll bet a good 6 million of that or so is for EPA mandates for other things doing with the sewer plant, sewer separation and those kinds of things. That's 40 million dollars; that's everything we've ever bonded for all those years. If yo dd these two projects together, the waste water treatment plant we were mandated by the EPA to do, and the Tolend Road project at the level we're thinking about that it appears we're going to have to pay, that's 40 million dollars. That equals every bond we've had since I was 9 years old.

I guess you can see why the City is concerned. I understand where you guys are coming I understand it that you're concerned about the taxpayers. The EPA, the Superfund was established by taxpayers ultimately through, they

paid money for oil and other, those kinds of 1 surcharges. And they set up the Superfund and the 2 EPA has been very cognizant of that and has acted 3 very responsibly toward that to make sure the 4 taxpayers are not having that money wasted. But 5 in this case, to paraphrase my other favorite 6 politic theorist, Pogo: We have met the taxpayers 7 and these are them. These are your taxpayers that 8 are paying your salary and my salary, and they're 9 going to be paying for this closure one way or 10 another in the wages that they can't get or in 11 taxes. And I think that deserves the EPA's full 12 I think it deserves the attention on this issu 13 EPA to look hard at the question of mixed funding 14 for we have a lot of industries who have gone 15 Eecause if you don't pay for it these away. 16 taxpayers, your taxpayers will pay for it. And 17 that's tasically my remarks to this point and I 18 have cosies of this to enter on the record. \_ 19

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DAN COUGHLIN: Okay. Thank you.

Richard Houghton, Chairman, Madbury Board of Selectmen.

RICHARD HOUGHTON: My name is Richard Houghton. I am chairman of the Madbury Board of

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Together with my fellow Selectmen, Selectmen. Joseph Moriarty and Bruce Hodson, both of whom are with me tonight, I speak on behalf of the 1200 residents of the Town of Madbury who potentially face an enormous liability exposure threatening the economic well-being of our town.

For your perspective, my comments are organized to address just who Madbury is, what ties Madbury has to the Tolend landfill, and finally, how Madbury hopes that the EPA's practical and equitable use of discretion in overseeing the future remediation of the site can balance environmental and fisca concerns, neither of which is any more important than the other to our citizens' day-to-day life.

At the conclusion of my statement I wish to submit my comments, supporting detail in writing to be made a part of EPA's administrative record.

When waste disposal operations were initiated at the Tolend landfill between 1961 and 1962, the Town of Madbury had an approximate population of 556 people. The non-school portion of our Town budget then slightly exceeded \$15,000.

Excerpts from our Town's Master Plan evidences our town's population growth, 704 people by 1970; 987 by 1980; and 1202 by 1988. Master Plan excerpts show that only one out of every four Madbury citizens has been a resident in town for more than ten years.

The building of single-family homes over the past three decades has caused our rural agricultural town to become in part a bedroom community, a suburb to Dover, Durham, the University of New Hampshire, Portsmouth and the Seacoast generally. Very few people work in town. Our households are made up primarily of ried couples, many with children.

Any remediation costs to be paid by
Madbury citizens will have a significant fiscal
impact on every household. The Town's
appropriations or budget for the calendar year
1991 anticipate expenditures, excluding school
costs, of only \$532,868. This is one fiftieth the
cost of EPA's proposed remediation plan for the
Tolend landfill site as announced by EPA in
midMarch. Actual town expenditures for fiscal
year 1990, excluding school costs, were \$437,131.

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15 percent of our local real estate taxes funds our schools, our town's budget. An average family household's tax bill may range from \$3500 to \$4000. Last year's \$40.75 tax rate per \$1000 of assessed valuation was allocated as follows:

\$31.13, or 76 percent of the total tax rate funded the Oyster River School District, a cooperative school district, including the towns of Madbury, Durham and Lee.

9 cents, or 1 percent of the total tax rate funded the Madbury water district.

\$3.35, or 8 percent of the total tax rate funded Stratford County expenditures.

And finally \$6.18 or 15 percent of the total tax rate funded the 1990 town budget of \$437,131.

A proposed remediation plan costing more than 50 times the town's current annual budget opens eyes in Madbury. Whatever portion Madbury must bear of a proposed 25 million dollar remediation plan will have a direct and costly effect on the \$6.18 portion of our current tax rate.

During the 1960s and '70s, when the Tolend landfill was in operation, Madbury's population varied between only 500 and 800 people. For so long as the Tolend site was being used there was never any general garbage collection in town resulting in waste disposal at the Tolend landfill. The majority of town residents disposed of household trash through personal incineration, trash burial and private dumps. Townspeople contributed negligible waste to the site.

During the same time there were only and still only three major industries in town.

The Taylor egg farm composted, burned and buried most of its waste on it's own premises. Some rotten eggs were brought to the Tolend landfill.

Madbury Metals did not even open until 1975.

Since 1955 New Hampshire state law has required municipalities to provide public disposal

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facilities for either privately or publicly owned The language of the applicable state statute, RSA 147:23 was then, just as it is now, per RSA 149 M 13, mandatory in its requirement that a municipality provide for and assure access to a public disposal facility for garbage and other solid waste.

The lack of a town dump in Madbury appears to have been a problem resolved by a permitting procedure by which a limited number of Madbury residents could obtain permits to use the Tolend Road landfill. Our 1963 Town Report confirms this arrangement for the limited number of only 40 families.

Nothing can be confirmed about this limiting permitted use except for the 1971 payment of \$97 to the city of Dover for dump permit fees.

By 1972 lease arrangements were made by prior selectmen, presumably in a continued effort to fulfill state mandates and allow for continued minimal use of the site by Madbury residents. A general survey of town residents conducted in February of 1988 confirms nothing more than a diminutive non-environmentally threatening use of

the site my a minimal number of Madbury residents.

Realizing the small town that we are and the negligible use that we made of the dump, and while one can well imagine the level of concern Madbury residents have about their need and ability to contribute toward the remediation of the Tolend landfill site, municipal budgets have everything to do with the allocation of scarce financial resources among a wide variety of community needs. The Dover landfill cleanup presents a potentially greater cost than any other municipal expenditure in the town's history.

Madbury is environmentally conscious.

As one example, the towr is currently reviewing a major recodification of our zoning ordinance, doing away with more typical dimensional requirement schemes, and instead proposing zoning to encourage appropriate use of suitable soils and the protection of aquifers. However, the potential joint and several liability to pay for environment damage as a result of Federal and State statutes and regulations imposed strictly and retroactively is of great concern. While a sharing of the burden may be inevitable, it is

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appropriate to assure that any burden shared is cost effective and one which is reasonably necessary to eliminate practical health risk while not financially crippling the town's ability to address other needs.

The town of Madbury joins in supporting the comments of the Dover city attorney.

The town of Madbury will join in the submission of professional comments addressing EPA's selected proposed plan.

The town of Madbury believes that the selection of a cost effective remediation, as required by federal statute and regulation, requires EPA to compare the marginal benefit and overly designed remedy will have to the communities of Madbury and Dover to the more direct benefits citizens of our municipalities will obtain by directing scarce tax dollars to other needed municipal services and household budgets.

Any design and implementation of a Management of Migration remedy must be deferred until the benefits of Source Control can be assessed through well monitoring.

It was literally with some amazement that my fellow Selectmen and I listened to EPA's current assessment of risk to both the Cocheco River and the Bellamy reservoir at EPA's public hearing at the Dover Horne Street School on Monday, March 25th.

Much of the immediate and irreparable harm perceived some years ago has significantly subsided. Contaminant plumes have been controlled and the previously perceived threat to both the Cocheco and Bellamy reservoir has lessened considerably. No one in Madbury would spend large sums of money to design a school which only might become necessary in the future. Particularly when future needs might actually differ from present perceived needs, thus requiring redesign of any actually needed school.

If town residents are to support and fund even a portion of a multi-million dollar remediation plan to the Dover Tolend landfill site, residents will expect the same Yankee spirit to influence discretionary decisions of the EPA.

The technical comments to be submitted on behalf of the participating PRPs should be

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seriously and earnestly considered by the EPA. Every effort must be made to assure that costeffective decisions are made with regard to choice, design and implementation of remedy. Federal law mandates EPA to consider cost. technology, reliability, administrative and other concerns and their relevant effects on the public health and welfare and the environment.

Madbury's obligations to educate its young, extend essential fire and police protection to all, care for its needy and to provide other basic municipal services are equally important provisions for the public health and welfare. Excessive remedy design, implementation costs will adversely affect the public health and welfare. A cost-effective remedy is justified, but its effects will be certain and significant to Madbury residents and the essential municipal services they demand, which together with Madbury's remediation liability exposure can only be funded by what has already become an overbearing property Thank you. tax burden. I do have a submission for you.

> DAN COUGHLIN: Thank you.

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LEE PERLMAN: My name is lee Perlman.

I'm president of Eastern Air Device: We are a manufacturing company located in Dover. We have a 150 employees, approximately 40 percent of them are residents of Dover.

I'm an owner of this business and I'm a taxpayer in Dover. I want to say what I have to say will be short, because much of that has already been said I want to tell you I wholeheartedly endorse and agree with in detail in terms of the selected remedy and it; benefits.

An increment of 20 million, approximately 20 million dollars is simply not worth it. As I see the problem, there isn't an incentive on the part of the people who are deciding how much money is to be spent simply because they're spending other people's money. There's a very, very small incremental benefit you get for spending a very, very large incremental dollars that doesn't have to be spent because it can be spent later, if you follow the Dover suggestion and the problems can be eliminated. It does not have to be spent now, instantaneously.

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The aquifer, the Bellamy can be protected and decisions can be made on an ongoing basis.

One last point. To show you how I feel about the sensitivity for spending money, so far well over 1 and a half million dollars -- 1 and a half million dollars has been spent by the PRPs, and probably, my guess, somewhere between a quarter of a million and another half million dollars has been spent outside of the PRPs or not counted in the PRP expenditure. So somewhere between 1 and 3 quarters and 2 million dollars have been spent so far on this so-called problem to remedy the problem and not a single shovel of dirt has been moved. I think that's a telling fact that we're spending money capriciously. So I recommend that the presentation of the Dover managers be received carefully and implemented. Thank you.

DAN COUGHLIN: Thank you.

Thomas Cravens, Portsmouth Water Division.

THOMAS CRAVENS: My name is Thomas

Cravens. I'm the representative for the

Portsmouth Water Division. And we certainly

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sympathize with the residents of Dover and Madbury who have quite a cost and impact to their budget for this cleanup.

And I think that we are probably seeing something similar of this sort in our own landfill that we have declared as a Superfund site, the Coakley landfill. However, in the water division we have a responsibility to our water customers that we do what we can to protect their drinking water and the sources of drinking water. To that end we are also working to develop well head protection programs to protect our well areas.

And we have written or letter to the EPA already stating that we support the EPA's proposed cleanup program for this Dover Superfund site. Thank you.

DAN COUGHLIN: Hamilton R. Krans, Jr.

D.I.D.A. Can you tell me what that is?

HAMILTON R. KRANS, JR.: Yes, I will.

DAN COUGHLIN: Thank you.

HAMILTON R. KRANS, JR.: My name is Hamilton Krans. I live on Hamilton Street in Dover, and I represent the Dover Industrial Development Authority, which is the D.I.D.A.

As a former chairman and member, the

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other members have asked me to speak against the preferred action by the EPA and for a more limited and less expensive alternative.

Dover is in competition with a number of communities throughout this State and throughout the Country to attract industry into this City.

One of the ways that we are planning on doing this and have done so in the past is to create an industrial park. As Mr. Wright has indicated, our bonding capacity now is a little over 1 million dollars. I believe he indicated that the City's bonding capacity is 13 million dollars. What we are fearful as Mr. Wright indicated, is that this preferred action will usurp all of the bonding capacity that the City has. And consequently I think that one can see the dire consequences of not being able to compete either locally or nationally for industries.

Consequently, I won't belabor the point, but a number of people have testified here tonight concerning the balancing of the good that the preferred plan would do with the devastating effect that it would have economically on Dover. And specifically speaking for the Dover Industrial

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Development Authority, I can assure you that this will have a devastating effect on our ability to compete, to gain industries into this city. Thank you.

DAN COUGHLIN: Otis Perry.

OTIS PERRY: Thank you. My name is Otis
Perry. I live at 137 County Farm Crossroad in
Dover. I'm a member of the city council.

I don't have any prepared remarks and I wasn't sure about the format, so I'll speak off the cuff. But I want to emphasize very strongly my support for the idea that we're talking here not about just cleaning up the Tolend R J landfill, we're talking about an allocation of resources issue and a moral issue about how the City and the government will distribute our taxes.

As far as I can see from what I've read in the proposed remediation and in the FS that was shown, the situation—and—from what—I heard you—say, Mr. Coughlin, at the original public hearing, public meeting at Horne Street School, the situation at the Tolend Road landfill is not that serious. It is not the overriding public health problem that it was conceived to be seven years

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ago when we started this process. And it seems to me that a careful, well-monitored program of watching the situation out there, fully prepared to step in and do whatever is necessary to protect the public health, if and when the public health is really threatened by the pollutants in the ground out there, is a much more preferred alternative to spending a lot of money piling dirt up on top of what is already there, with the hope that by doing that nothing at all will happen when we know that something probably will anyway.

As I said originally, I think of this as an economic resource allocation issue and the ci'. manager made a very eloquent statement about how we have to think about spending, allocating our resources and spending the money we have to provide the services, public health services for the people who live in this community and in our neighboring communities, and I think that spending this kind of money on this particular proposal is a waste of that money and is probably -- well, I won't say that. I just think it's a waste of money.

> DAN COUGHLIN: Thank you.

David Penniman.

DAVID PENNIMAN: I'm David Penniman, of 51 Evans Road in Madbury. And I'm a member of the Oyster River Cooperative School Board, which is made up of the Towns of Madbury, Lee, and Durham.

As a school board member, certainly I'm charged not only to ensure the quality education of our children, but even more so in these times to use scarce fiscal resources effectively.

Education of our children is naturally of prime importance. Failure to do so ransoms our future, but more importantly their future.

We're already strapped for school funds, as we had in our district, a major battle to reduce spending this last budget cycle, and we expect another such endeavor this next budget cycle.

In the town of Madbury, which is the smallest-of-the three towns, 76 percent as already attested to, makes up, of Madbury's tax revenue is for the schools. And with no industry in town, being a residential community, you're talking about people that own homes to produce the tax base in the town of Madbury. And such an effort

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as you have portrayed in this particular thing is just going to kill people when it comes to trying to keep their homes.

Unfortunately, further monetary requirements for whatever reason again must be raised by property taxes. As you well know in this State there aren't many other ways to get more money. Property taxes seems to be the only Some people are trying other methods, but it's going to be a long term, if any. Residents are already at their limit regarding property taxes and are strapped just to support our schools, to say nothing about just trying to support the minimal town requirements we have in Madbury.

Monetary requirements on the Town of the magnitude are you proposing will break the taxpayer's backs. Many are at the limit and are barely able to hang onto their homes at this point just trying to support the taxes required today. With what you are implying, many will probably have to lose their homes. There's no way they can keep them and pay such a tax burden.

We ask a reasonable approach to the

landfill situation. I strongly support environmental protection, but we mustn't go for the silver spoon approach when a plastic spoon approach would do the job in this case. Thank you very much.

DAN COUGHLIN: Thank you.

Gerald Daley, Dover School Department.

GERALD DALEY: My name is Gerald Daley.

I'm the superintendent of schools here in Dover.

And I'm here this evening to ask that the EPA give careful consideration to one of the less costly but viable alternatives for solving the problem at the Tolend landfill. I certainly recognize the severity of the problem, but I want to be sure that I also bring forth the severity of the school's problems.

We're facing severe budget crunches at this particular time, due at least in part to the new sewage treatment plant which is going on line very shortly.

I really fear that the impact of this particular plan, the preferred plan, will have a serious, very serious effect on our situation. We need a new elementary school in Dover. We don't

have it because we can't afford it.

We don't have a kindergarten in Dover. We can't afford it.

This month I sent out reduction force notices, layoffs, to 26 professional staff people, including our elementary librarians and classroom teachers on every level. There's every possibility that we can't afford them.

We also can't afford continuing costs, continuing hits like the one that may come to us if the preferred plan goes through.

The EPA has a responsibility to protect the citizenry from environmental hazards, and I respect that. I have a responsibility to educate the citizenry. I'm willing to seek less costly means to discharge my responsibility and I ask that the EPA do the same. Thank you.

DAN COUGHLIN: Thank you.

James Richards, director of public works, Dover.

JAMES RICHARDS: Good evening. My name is Jim Richards, 143 Long Hill Road, Dover. I'm the director of public works and I agree with all that has been said before me.

First, the landfill was closed in conformance with the standards that existed in 1979.

Second, the pollution plume appears to be lessening in size and intensity, and doesn't warrant this type of expense.

Third, as you've seen indicated before you tonight, the means of payment is more than the populace can afford.

Lastly, I've built secure, sanitary ...
landfills that were generally lined, albeit on the bottom, with clay or membrane. The proposed barriers, all of them, vinyl, clay and membrane are excessive in their approach to protection.

I believe that monitoring and monitoring only should be required and hopefully a more common sense design, rather than building a pyramid of trash — maybe even to extraction wells or hydraulic barriers or just some more thought given. The existing layer, the capping that was put on in '79 apparently is working fairly decently. That's all I have to say. Thank you.

DAN COUGHLIN: Thank you.

Rosie Walker-Bois, president, Greater

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Dover Chamber of Commerce.

ROSIE WALKER-BOIS: Thank you.

I'm the president of the Greater Dover Chamber of Commerce, and I'm a resident of Dover as well. I represent close to 500 business people in the community, most of whom live here.

The words that I hear when I go out and talk with business people in the community -- I'm in the real estate business myself, and I have an opportunity to be out and about and talking with people on a daily basis. And the words that I hear them saying is: Well, we're struggling along. We're here for the long haul, but it's going to be very hard. We're working very, very hard for even fewer dollars.

And this is the point that I would like you to really sincerely keep in mind. Everybody is really struggling to try to do their very best to live and work in this community, to be able to stay in this community. And a greater tax burden is going to make it increasingly difficult for them.

I see the responsibility here as a twopart responsibility. It is your responsibility to

come up with some kind of a plan to help us, give us some ideas of how we can take care of this landfill, and that's one part of the responsibility.

The other part of the responsibility is the fiscal impact on the community. And I sincerely hope that you will take that part of your responsibility as seriously as you take the part of giving us the ideas in the plan put forward to take care of the hazardous waste. Thank you.

DAN COUGHLIN: Thank you.

5.4 Jim Caliendo, tax payer.

JIM CALIENDO: Good evening. My name is Jim Caliendo, and I am a taxpayer, and when I see something like this, why. I do get a little irate.

You've heard from all of the illustrious people here in the city of Dover except a taxpayer.—And I'd like to ask a couple of questions. You said we could ask you some questions, so I'd like to ask you some.

Number one, why, out of all the multimillion places that are more contaminated than the city of Dover that you picked the city of

Dover?

DAN COUGHLIN: I should explain before we go on with the questions, we will take comments. We'll respond to the comments in the Responsiveness Summary as part of the Record of This is not a question and answer Decision. session right now. We'll take down all the questions and we can assure you'll be given an answer in the Responsiveness Summary.

JIM CALIENDO: Well, I thought I was the last speaker so I thought I'd throw that in and give you a chance anyway.

> DA: LOUGHLIN: Okay.

JIM CALIENDO: As a taxpayer, as you've already noted, it would fall on our shoulders to pay an additional 2 or 3 thousand dollars. When I moved to Dover in 1965 I was paying \$400 a year for taxes. Now I'm paying in excess of 4000.

And I do fight city hall and I do fight the school department and I do fight the public works and I do fight the fire department and I do fight the federal government.

And I've seen some places in this State that need a lot more work done than the Dover

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landfill.

I am also a contractor and I am well aware that given a given period of time the land seems to refurbish itself in many cases. And we do have facts right here in this City that the Dover landfill in the last 30 years has receded from becoming any more hazardous than it was originally thought to be.

And like a lot of farms that went to waste 200 years ago, you can walk in the woods and about the only thing you can see is some stone fences. Outside of that, the trees are there, the pines are there, and forth.

We don't see any dead animals out there around the Dover landfill, we don't see any dead birds out there and we don't see anything out there. We've got shrubs, you've got trees, everything else is growing out there. And I just can't see the government coming in here and asking us to spend 26 million dollars when there's really no need of it. And I'd like to have you take some real consideration on that fact. Thank you very much.

DAN COUGHLIN: Thank you, sir.

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Bi 1 Dube.

BILL DUBE: My name is Bill Dube. I live 242 Dover Point Road. I'm chairman of the Dover Economic Commission.

I'd like to make my comments to let you know how this extensive cleanup will impact the economy of this City.

I really support a limited action plan that would reduce the cost to the city of Dover. The size of this obligation that the City would be incurring is tremendous. We've heard the city manager point out that it's as large as our school budget, as large as our total city budget. As a small businessman in the community, it's 15 to 20 years total salary for our whole dealership. I just -- it's mind-boggling.

We need to look at the economic development, the ability to pay for this if the City is saddled with this obligation, the increase in the tax rate, the number of foreclosures, as mentioned before by other people. It's just going to create a problem that will stifle economic development. There will be no economic development. Businesses will refuse to come to

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this City because of the tax rate. We're going to stifle all of the growth of the community and I think that we're going to wind up either bankrupting or tremendously crippling this community that we will not be able to go forward.

I really respect the EPA's abilities, their knowledge, but please think of us and take a limited approach that will serve all of us and not just an extensive cleanup that will serve to destroy the city rather than clean it. Thank you very much.

DAN COUGHLIN: Thank you, sir. Is there anybody else that would like to comment?

ROBERT GALLO: My name is Robert Gallo, and I'm counsel for the town of Madbury. And I just wanted to add the larger perspective to what you've heard here.

Assume everything you've heard is true, and then multiply that by three because of the impact on the seacoast area of New Hampshire that results from similar remedies being required at Coakley in Northhampton and at Somersworth and here in Dover. And I think a fair assessment of the amount of money that's being looked for is

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probably in the range of about 70 million dollars.

And you can't miss the fact that those are not three absolutely isolated communities. People in Dover work in the Portsmouth-Northampton People from Portsmouth-Northampton area come to Dover to work. The same kind of exchange has happened with Dover and Somersworth. I mean, these are interrelated communities.

So once again, everything that you've heard about what will happen to Dover and Madbury is absolutely trux, although unfortunately it's going to be multiplied by three by the general proposis you've made for this area. Thank you.

DAN COUGHLIN: Anybody else? With that I'll close the hearing. Okav. Do I have somebody else that would like to comment?

GARY SEAR: My name is Gary Sear. I'm a councillor of Ward 3. I'd just like to take a second and respond to some of the comments made tonight.

You know, when we think of Switzerland we think of fine chocolate and fine watchmaking. In 1967 they had a council of watchmakers that

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met, which they do meet every year, but in 1967 there was a gentlemen who introduced an electronic watch. And in that time the council of watchmakers, who were the people that were in the know of fine watchmaking, decided that it would never work. That individual two years later sold that patent to a Japanese firm and as you know it today we have what we have, the electronic watch. Okay?

Now, in 1967 the Swiss had 85 percent of the watch market and today they have 20 percent of the watch market. Okay? Because they failed to listen and to 'with the times.

In 1967 I was 14 years old and I had my first cigarette. A few years after that cigarette packs came out and said it could cause, it could be hazardous to your health. I think today — I don't smoke anymore, but they do in fact say it is hazardous to your health. Times do change and we have to be cognizant of that, but we all try to do the right thing. We stopped drinking coffee, we drink decaffeinated coffee until they tell us it's no longer good for you, and then we go back to drinking regular coffee.

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When I first went in the service they told me salt tablets were great for you, so they gave me all kinds of salt tablets. Now they say it's bad for your blood pressure.

We continue to be in a vicious cycle and be led by government officials, and I can perfectly appreciate where you're standing right now because we all are there from time to time. But the bottom line is that we are faced with a decision that has to be made over the next several months which could  $\epsilon$ ffect the future of this City and could destroy the City if it wasn't dealt with properly.

Nobody wants to do the wrong thing here, and we all want to do the right thing. I think consciously we want to do that, but I think there are alternatives and I think there have been some presentations made tonight that show that we can in fact do something that's positive but do it in a way that's not going to be a detriment to the community. And I would strongly urge you to take those into consideration. Thank you.

DAN COUGHLIN: Yes, ma'am.

JANET WALL: For the record, I'm State

rep. Janet Wall. I live in the town of Madbury.

I was not going to speak this evening, but I think

I need to join the unanimous voice that you've
heard here tonight that the project you're
planning to implement is going to more than
cripple us, it's going to cripple the next
generation.

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In our school district this year we nearly had a taxpayers' revolt. We desperately needed school funds, and yet at the same time people are crying out saying they simply cannot afford the property taxes anymore.

Tonight you've heard for civic leaders in the city of Dover and the town of Madbury. You've heard from businessmen. All of us are saying the same thing: We simply can't afford any more. As a State rep. I can tell you that the State of New Hampshire is hurting and hurting badly. That's not political rhetoric, that's called hard reality. There's not going to be any money coming from the State to help the cities and towns this year; we don't have it. And I think you folks from Massachusetts need to realize what we're feeling up here. We're no better off than

Massachusetts.

As a private citizen I need to tell you, I live in a house that's been in my family since 1740. Our family has been around since Madbury was part of the city of lover, town of Dover at that time, before it became a town of its own. In the years I was growing up in the town of Madbury our family had land. Our family had an alternative means for disposing of our household waste. We had an incinerator and we had ways of burying and places to bury what we could bury. In the whole time that I have lived in the town of Madbury I believe that our family has mad se or did make use of the landfill at the Tolend site approximately two years.

Now, I fully believe in having responsibility for cleaning up problems that we have created over time, and I don't abhor the idea at all of picking up my share of the responsibility. But when I heard the figures tonight for what I'm going to have to probably pay as a taxpayer, I'm going to tell you that I am so crippled at this point financially that I'm quite frightened about how I'm going to hang onto my

house.

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From a household that -- a family, rather, that once had large portions of land and more than once house, I live in the old family homestead on one acre of land. My taxes are in the vicinity of \$4000 a year. I have two sons, one of college age, one about to go to college. I don't know how I'm going to do it.

I'm doing the best I can to be fiscally responsible, and I realize that you know that the rest of the city of Dover and the town of Madbury are trying to do the same. But when you're dipping into the till for resources there comes a point when there's nothing left to take. We now have gone to the well to draw out for the school district, we've gone out to handle our major responsibilities for simply maintaining our municipalities. And we've gone to the well so often and for so much, and we've been so careful, actually, in how we've done it. But at the same time there's just nothing there to take anymore. We're at a point now where people are leaving the area because people just cannot afford to live here anymore. And I ask that you seriously

consider an alternative plan.

I'm sure that you will be very careful in choosing exactly what is best for the cleanup of that site, and I have a tramendous amount of respect for the EPA. But I also ask that you consider what a burden it's going to put on us and our children. Thank you.

DAN COUGHLIN: Yes, sir.

TOM FORBES: Hi. My name is Tom Forbes. I live at 254 Tolend Road. I'm also chairman of the Dover Planning Board. Relcome to Dover. Three brave souls.

I guess I'm just naive, and I was just sitting back there and I talked to a guy next to I said, "They don't really, they don't' really propose to mandate this on us, do they?" And no disrespect. It's just beyond me. That kind of money is just beyond me. You know, being on the planning board we work with the CIP and I have to smile about it. Becsuse, you know, we sit there and quibble about fire trucks, but we quibble about smaller things than that. Air conditioners in the library, in the children's reading room. I mean, we bartered that thing

24